

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 41-50 are pending in this application. Claims 1-40 have been canceled.

The Office Action required applicant to select one of the perceived 28 species to which the claims are directed. The Office Action further notes that claim 1 is generic.

Applicant has canceled all claims directed to specific species. None of the new claims are directed to any of the instrument parts specifically recited in original claims 1-40.

As was acknowledged in the Office Action, original claim 1 is generic because it is directed to the material and manner of construction that is applicable to all instrument-specific component parts. The same applies to new independent claim 41. New dependent claims 42-50 are directed to specific features of the component parts recited in claim 41 such as their materials and/or manner of construction. All dependent claims, like independent claim 41, are generic because they read on all disclosed species shown in Figs. 1-42. Conversely, none of the dependent claims read on less than all figures.

Accordingly, all pending claims 41-50 are generic. This applies to dependent claim 46, which reads on all Figs. 1-40 and, therefore, it too is generic.

In view of the foregoing, applicant submits that the new set of claims 41-50 contains only generic claims. In view thereof, applicant requests an early examination of pending claims 41-50.

Application No. 10/558,813
Amendment
Reply to Office Action of March 4, 2008

PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at (415) 273-4730 (direct dial).

Respectfully submitted,


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